



## **HCD WEB NEWS**

California Department of Housing and Community Development

*Division of Housing Policy Development*

**March 3, 2005**

### **LIBRARY OF CONGRESS: TODAY IN HISTORY**

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/today.html>

### **TODAY'S NEWS**

#### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

**SACRAMENTO BEE - Folsom acts to keep rentals amid flurry of condo conversions** / Flooded with proposals to convert apartments into condominiums for sale, the Folsom City Council is considering new rules to preserve enough rental housing. A countywide boom in condominium conversions has sparked requests to convert 824 of Folsom's approximately 4,000 rental apartment units...

[http://www.sacbee.com/content/community\\_news/citrus\\_heights/story/12496035p-13351755c.html](http://www.sacbee.com/content/community_news/citrus_heights/story/12496035p-13351755c.html)

**CONTRA COSTA TIMES – East Bay Roundup – Dublin: Affordable housing ordinance amended** / The City Council approved two changes in its affordable housing ordinance Tuesday night, more precisely defining "very low" income and creating two additional preferences for affordable housing units. Now, "very low" income will be considered 50 percent of the average median income...

<http://www.contracostatimes.com/mld/cctimes/email/news/11039476.htm>

#### **HOUSING DEVELOPMENT**

**LOS ANGELES TIMES - Permits for New Home Construction Drop** / Rainy weather put a damper on the state's new home construction in January, with the number of permits declining 6% from the year before and a whopping 29% from December, a trade group reported...

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-rup3.3mar03,1.6663899.story>

**CALIFORNIA BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION – Press Release: 3/2/2005 Heavy Rains Dampen Housing Starts in January, CBIA Reports** / SACRAMENTO - Mother Nature took a toll on new-home construction in January, with rainy weather causing major delays in many parts of the state. The bad weather resulted in California housing starts dropping significantly in January compared to the extremely high totals recorded in December 2004, the California Building Industry Association reported today... <http://www.cbia.org/index.cfm?pageid=1069>

**SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS - Coyote Valley plans worrying neighbors: SOME IN MORGAN HILL FEAR IMPACT ON TRAFFIC, SCHOOLS AND HOUSING** / San Jose officials envision the Coyote Valley development as a fresh, urban community that will

boast at least 25,000 homes, 50,000 new jobs and 80,000 people. But officials in the neighboring city of Morgan Hill, just south of the planned community, are wary of those numbers...

<http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/local/11039387.htm>

**Developers, residents seek balance: HOUSING IMPACT STUDY TO INCLUDE TWO PROPOSALS FOR FOUR PARCELS**

/ Developers and residents trying to develop a vision for future growth in Evergreen last week presented two proposals for how many new homes should be allowed, both of which will be included in an environmental review. Housing developers want 5,700 new units built on the more than 500 acres of open land in Evergreen, while residents are pushing for no more than 4,600 units, though they'd prefer fewer...

<http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/local/11039341.htm>

## **LAND USE / PLANNING**

**LOS ANGELES DOWNTOWN NEWS - Grand Avenue Work Could Begin Next Year: Developer Gives Early Details on 1,000 Housing Units and a Park**

/ The first phase of the long-touted Grand Avenue project could break ground as early as summer 2006, according to officials working on the \$1.2 billion development atop Bunker Hill. Though details are still preliminary, New York-based developer the Related Companies last Tuesday unveiled its vision for transforming the lackluster blocks into a lively pedestrian district and high-density residential hub...

<http://www.ladowntownnews.com/articles/2005/02/28/news/news01.txt>

**LOS ANGELES TIMES - Resort Plan a Hot Issue in Beverly Hills: Backers and foes of a proposed \$200-million complex will decide the issue at the polls Tuesday**

/ It's getting nasty in them thar hills — Beverly Hills, that is — as voters wrestle over a proposal to build a \$200-million luxury resort hotel, public garden and parking garage in the ritzy commercial district known as the Golden Triangle. The proposed development has dominated civic discourse for more than a year and prompted a big-bucks campaign... <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-bevhills3mar03,0,7183712.story?coll=la-home-local>

**Key Measures on Local Cities' Ballots** - Voters in several Los Angeles County cities will cast ballots Tuesday on a number of measures, covering such topics as term limits, development and new taxes... **REDONDO BEACH** / ... The second calls for development of Village Park, a mixed-use project with 350 homes, a 400-room hotel, 100,000 square feet of commercial space, a 16-acre park, a lake and canals...

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-county3mar03,1,7157260.story>

**CONTRA COSTA TIMES - Pardee plan won't get its own election / LIVERMORE**

- The slow-growth City Council majority has declined to put Pardee Homes' North Livermore development proposal on a special June 7 ballot. More time is needed for voters to get adequate information on the project's fiscal, traffic and other impacts, they said at Monday night's council meeting...

<http://www.contracostatimes.com/mld/cctimes/email/news/11029460.htm>

**SACRAMENTO BEE – Letters / B promotes high growth** - Here we go again ... El Dorado County needs a general plan. The county supervisors are promoting Measure B, a high-growth plan essentially identical to the 2004 Measure G, which was placed on the ballot by developers and overwhelmingly rejected by voters...

[http://www.sacbee.com/content/community\\_news/folsom\\_cordova/story/12496113p-13351736c.html](http://www.sacbee.com/content/community_news/folsom_cordova/story/12496113p-13351736c.html)

## **MORTGAGE ISSUES**

**SAN DIEGO UNION TRIBUNE - Why long-term interest rates are low / ROBERT J. SAMUELSON – NEWSWEEK** / Something strange happened on the way to higher interest rates: they declined. We're talking about rates on long-term mortgages and bonds. These rates truly affect the economy, because they influence housing and business investment...

[http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20050302/news\\_lz1e2samuels.html](http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20050302/news_lz1e2samuels.html)

## **HOMELESSNESS**

**SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS - Yeager joins homeless task force** / Councilman Ken Yeager has been appointed to represent San Jose on the Santa Clara County Task Force to End Chronic Homelessness. The task force is composed of about 40 city and county officials and homeless experts. It will focus on finding permanent housing for the chronically homeless...

[http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/breaking\\_news/11032968.htm](http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/news/breaking_news/11032968.htm)

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

#### **News Release: 3/2/2005 / Mobile Office Program**

The Department is initiating a pilot mobile office that will travel to different cities in the central California region in order to assist customers with Registration & Titling Program issues... [http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/Mobile\\_Office\\_Program\\_Poster.pdf](http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/Mobile_Office_Program_Poster.pdf)

## **REDEVELOPMENT / BROWNFIELDS**

**SACRAMENTO BEE - Capital renaissance: R Street revival in the works: But industrial eyesores split the area's new housing and shops** / ...Gourmet coffee and art galleries suggest that the city's decade-long effort to rebuild R Street as a walkable district of housing, shops and offices - the capital city's own version of Oakland's Jack London Square - is paying off. Crystal Ice and other rundown buildings show how much work remains. More than a century of industry left many of the properties contaminated with toxic chemicals that must be cleaned up before the sites can be redeveloped...

<http://www.sacbee.com/content/news/story/12500837p-13356412c.html>

**CONTRA COSTA TIMES - Richmond chimes in on cleanup of toxic site** / The Richmond City Council has added its voice to those asking the state for tighter control of a toxic cleanup at the former Stauffer Chemical site and the neighboring UC Field Station... Developer Cherokee Simeon is preparing the waterfront property off Interstate 580 in south Richmond, formerly home of Stauffer Chemical, for development as a business park and housing...

<http://www.contracostatimes.com/mld/cctimes/email/news/11039498.htm>

## **FEDERAL BUDGET 2006 - CDBG**

**SAN DIEGO UNION TRIBUNE - Lawmakers balk at Bush's plan to cut, shift community block grants** / WASHINGTON – Lawmakers on Wednesday balked at President Bush's plan to cut community block grants for cities and move the program to a different department – a change his own housing secretary said he opposed...

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/nation/20050302-1526-communitygrants.html>

## GOVERNMENT SITES:

### **California Dept. of Finance – Governor's Budget**

[http://www.dof.ca.gov/HTML/BUD\\_DOCS/Bud\\_link.htm](http://www.dof.ca.gov/HTML/BUD_DOCS/Bud_link.htm)

### **California Dept. of Housing & Community Development - Press Releases**

<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/news/release/>

### **California Dept. of Housing & Community Development – Housing Policy Development Bibliographies**

<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/hpd/biblio.html>

### **California Dept. of Housing & Community Development – HCD Web News**

<http://www.hcd.ca.gov/hpd/news/clips.html>

### **Today's Focus at HUD [HTTP://WWW.HUD.GOV/focus/focus.html](http://WWW.HUD.GOV/focus/focus.html)**

### **The United States General Accounting Office-GAO Reports**

<http://www.gao.gov/audit.htm>

### **Federal Register, Today's Table of Contents**

[http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/aces/fr-cont.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/aces/fr-cont.html)

### **Federal Register, Year 2005 Recent Table of Contents**

[http://www.access.gpo.gov/su\\_docs/fedreg/frcont05.html](http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/fedreg/frcont05.html)

### **U.S. Census Bureau – News Releases**

<http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/>

### **U.S. Census 2000 <http://www.census.gov/dmd/www/2khome.htm>**

### **California Supreme Court Decisions /**

### **California Courts of Appeal Decisions (last 100 days are posted in full text)**

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions/>

## COVERAGE INFORMATION:

California Department of Housing and Community Development WEB NEWS service coverage:

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays each week includes electronic format articles retrieved from newspapers or news services that report housing and community development news in California and some national services.

Tuesdays and Thursdays coverage includes only six major California newspapers that are available electronically via the Internet – and any significant related breaking news.

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